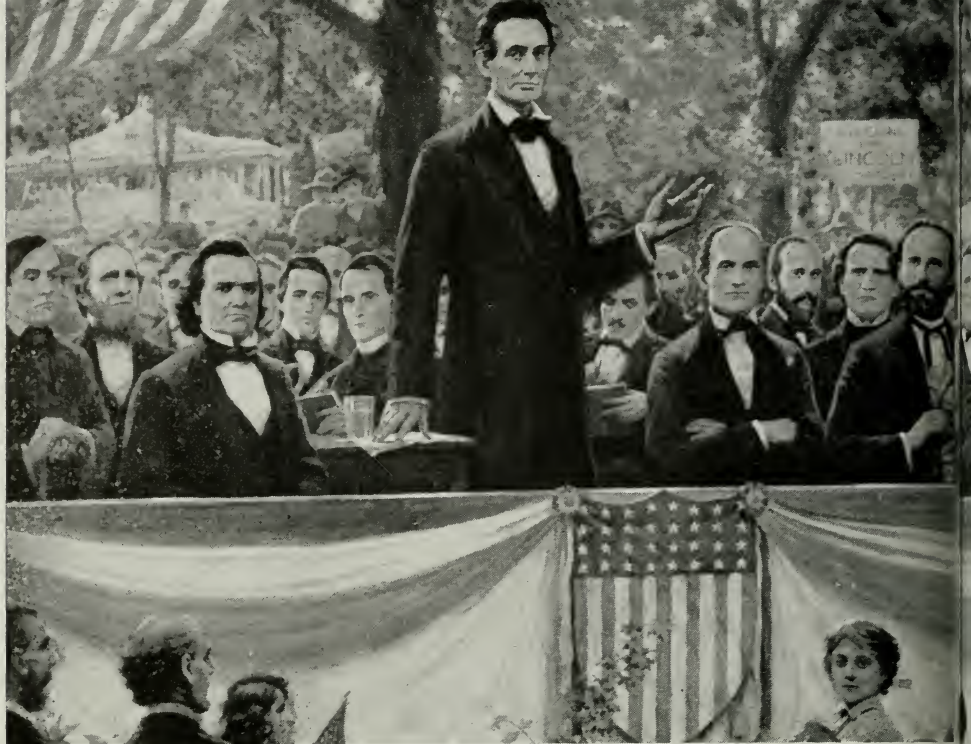
A black and white photograph of the Illinois State Capitol building. The building features a large central dome topped with a statue and a flag. The facade is classical, with columns and a pediment. In the foreground, a statue of Abraham Lincoln stands on a pedestal, partially obscured by a large, leafy bush. The sky is overcast.

ILLINOIS

*Land of Lincoln*



IN 1858, "Voices from the Prairie" focused national attention for the first time on a progressive and rapidly growing commonwealth—the State of Illinois. National tension regarding questions of slavery and secession was mounting. Due to a unique geographical and political situation, Illinois was destined to play a great role in shaping the course of the Nation.

Also unique was the fact that expression was found for these great national issues in two Illinoisans—Abraham Lincoln, a tall gaunt man, then a former state representative and congressman, and Stephen A. Douglas, a short heavy dynamic orator, incumbent U. S. Senator from Illinois. Lincoln aspired to be U. S. Senator and Douglas was determined to be reelected. A series of debates ensued that were the political phenomena of 1858 and unparalleled in American history. United States senators were then elected by the state legislature. Thus it was essential that each candidate get the right men elected to the legislature. Lincoln and Douglas each campaigned so vigorously that it appeared each man was trying to get the vote for himself.

Historically, the Great Debates are centered around the seven joint debates and the Chicago and Springfield speeches. However, this article written expressly for the ILLINOIS BLUE BOOK serves to point out that speeches and appearances were made in more than seventy-five towns and half the 100 counties then comprising Illinois.

Reprinted by the Illinois State Historical Library from the  
 "Illinois Blue Book, 1953-1954," issued January, 1955, by  
 Charles F. Carpentier, Secretary of State





Abraham Lincoln opened the fourth of the series of debates at Charleston on September 18, 1858, before a crowd of 15,000. Robert Marshall Root used photographs to obtain good likenesses of thirteen prominent figures in his painting which hangs in the Capitol at Springfield. From left to right, starting with Orlando B. Ficklin (folded hands), they are: Ficklin, Dr. William M. Chambers, Stephen A. Douglas, Horace White, Robert R. Hitt, Abraham Lincoln, Henry Binmore, James T. Cunningham, James B. Sheridan, Usher F. Linder, Henry P. H. Bromwell, Elisha Linder, Richard J. Oglesby.

## The Great Debates

By HARRY E. PRATT

State Historian

THE MOMENTOUS ISSUE of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858 was the future of slavery in the United States. The destiny of the Union was decided when Abraham Lincoln emerged as the powerful leader of the western Republicans. The Great Debates attracted widespread attention over the entire nation as well as in Illinois. More was at stake than state issues and state results: the fate of the "popular sovereignty," the triumph or defeat of President James Buchanan's administration, and the presidential nominations of 1860.

The United States Supreme Court in its decision in the Dred Scott case in 1857 accepted the extreme Southern doctrine—the right of slavery to go into the territories without restrictions either from Congress or from any other source. The decision thus set aside the Republican theme of Congressional control, and also tossed aside popular sovereignty. With an eye on the presidential campaign of 1860 Douglas reaffirmed his faith in the doctrine and at the same time declared that he supported the decision. Lincoln did not, maintaining it was erroneous in a speech in Springfield, June 26, 1857.

Douglas sensed the growing anti-slavery sentiment in Illinois, and when the pro-slavery faction in Kansas tried to put over the Lecompton Constitution, he opposed it on the ground that it violated popular sovereignty. The constitution protected slave property in Kansas; the unique feature was the popular referendum, not on the entire constitution, but only on the question of the further admission of slaves. Douglas' opposition to Buchanan came into the open when he declared



Oil lamps similar to above, were used in parades in 1858.

against the Lecompton fraud, and some eastern Republicans were for taking him as their party leader. This frightened Lincoln who was a candidate for Douglas' seat in the Senate. Lincoln's friends, however, gave encouragement to the fight between Douglas and Buchanan—they wanted to profit by the "treason" without embracing the "traitor."

Douglas returned from Congress to his home city of Chicago in July, 1858, and began elaborate preparations for the four months' campaign ahead. He rented a special train of coaches and a flatcar upon which was mounted a small twelve-pound cannon. It fired a few rounds of salute as the train drew near a station, thus inviting the inhabitants into a welcome salute. On each side of the baggage car were the words "S. A. Douglas, the Champion of Popular Sovereignty."

Eastern newspapers dispatched special reporters, and each party provided two shorthand reporters to accurately transcribe the seven joint debates. Sixty-nine Democratic newspapers in Illinois supported Douglas, and only five were for Buchanan. The quarrel between the Buchanan-Democrats and the Douglas-Democrats gave Lincoln his chief hope.

Lincoln on June 16, 1858 received the nomination for the Senate by the Republican State Convention, and delivered his carefully prepared "House Divided" speech in the hall of the House of Representatives in the Statehouse. Ninety-five county conventions endorsed him. Both men campaigned as if the voters at the polls, instead of the legislature, were going to elect the United States senator. The *Cincinnati Commercial*, taking a view of the Republican candidate, wrote "Lincoln is popular—the strongest man the opposition have,—is nearly fifty years old—six feet two [four]—slightly stoop-shouldered—very muscular and powerful—dark eyes—a quizzical, pleasant, raw-boned face—tells a better story than any one else—is a good lawyer—is what the world calls a devilish good fellow."

Two men presenting wider contrasts could scarcely have been found. Douglas, an able senator and a fine orator, was described as a "short, thick-set, burly man, with large round head, heavy hair, dark complexion, and fierce bull-dog bark. Of towering ambition, restless for notoriety, he was proud, defiant, arrogant and audacious."

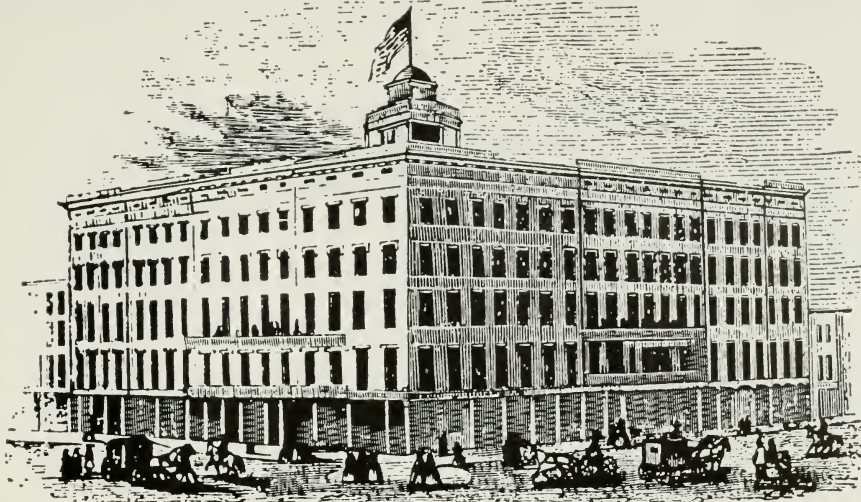
Judge Douglas, who regarded slavery as an affair of climate and latitude, was a native of free Vermont; whereas Lincoln, who considered slavery a national evil and hoped the Union would one day be *all* free, was born in slaveholding Kentucky.

Douglas seized control of the Democratic Party in Illinois from the "National Democrats" or Buchanan wing. He acknowledged Lincoln as a worthy opponent when he admitted: "I shall have my hands full. He is the strong man of his party—full of wit, facts, dates, and the best stump-speaker, with his droll ways and dry jokes, in the West. He is as honest as he is shrewd; and if I beat him, my victory will be hardly won."

The campaign opened at the Tremont House in Chicago on July 9, 1858. Douglas received a great ovation upon his arrival in Chicago, and knowing that Lincoln was in the audience, he put on the popular sovereignty mantle—he only was the rightful champion of the principle of local self-government as applied to slavery. Taking Lincoln's assertion of a "house divided against itself," he found in it a plan to array section against section—a plan to incite a war of extermination.

Lincoln replied the following night from the same balcony of the Tremont





Tremont House scene of a great welcome for Douglas on July 9, 1858 when he returned to Chicago. He spoke from the balcony in the evening, analyzing Lincoln's "House Divided" speech. Lincoln listened and on the following evening replied from the same spot to a smaller but enthusiastic crowd. Douglas had lived for a time at the Tremont House, and here he died, June 3, 1861.

House. A week later, July 16, Douglas spoke in Bloomington, and Lincoln replied the following day in Springfield in what he described as the most "taking" speech of the first part of the campaign. Copies of this speech were printed in English and German for distribution. But it would take more than penny-a-copy speeches to win against Douglas. He had a special train, his charming wife who accompanied him, ample campaign funds, cannon, brass bands, glee clubs, fireworks and banners.

Perceiving their disadvantage, the Republicans proposed a joint canvass. Lincoln's letter was delivered to Douglas in Chicago on July 24 by Norman B. Judd. Douglas agreed to joint debates in the seven congressional districts where they had not already spoken—Ottawa, Freeport, Jonesboro, Charleston, Galesburg, Quincy and Alton. The opening speeches were to be one hour, the replies an hour and a half, and the rebuttals by the first speaker, a half hour.

These debates would have been impossible prior to 1858 in Illinois. The phenomenal railroad construction in the 1850's made it possible for Douglas to travel 5,227 miles in 100 days. Like the Chautauqua lecturers of a later day, there were long jumps between speeches. Without railroads, Lincoln, after speaking at Vermont in the afternoon, could not have driven in the mud to the Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad (18 miles), taken a train to Chicago (250 miles), changed to the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis for Springfield (200 miles), then by carriage to Petersburg (20 miles), in two days. Lincoln traveled, in less than four months, 350 miles by boat, 600 by carriage, 3,400 by train, a total of 4,350 miles.

Here in the House of Representatives of the first Statehouse in Springfield, Lincoln delivered the "House Divided" speech on June 16, 1858. The State Republican Convention meeting here passed unanimously a resolution "that Abraham Lincoln is the first and only choice of the Republicans of Illinois for the United States Senate."



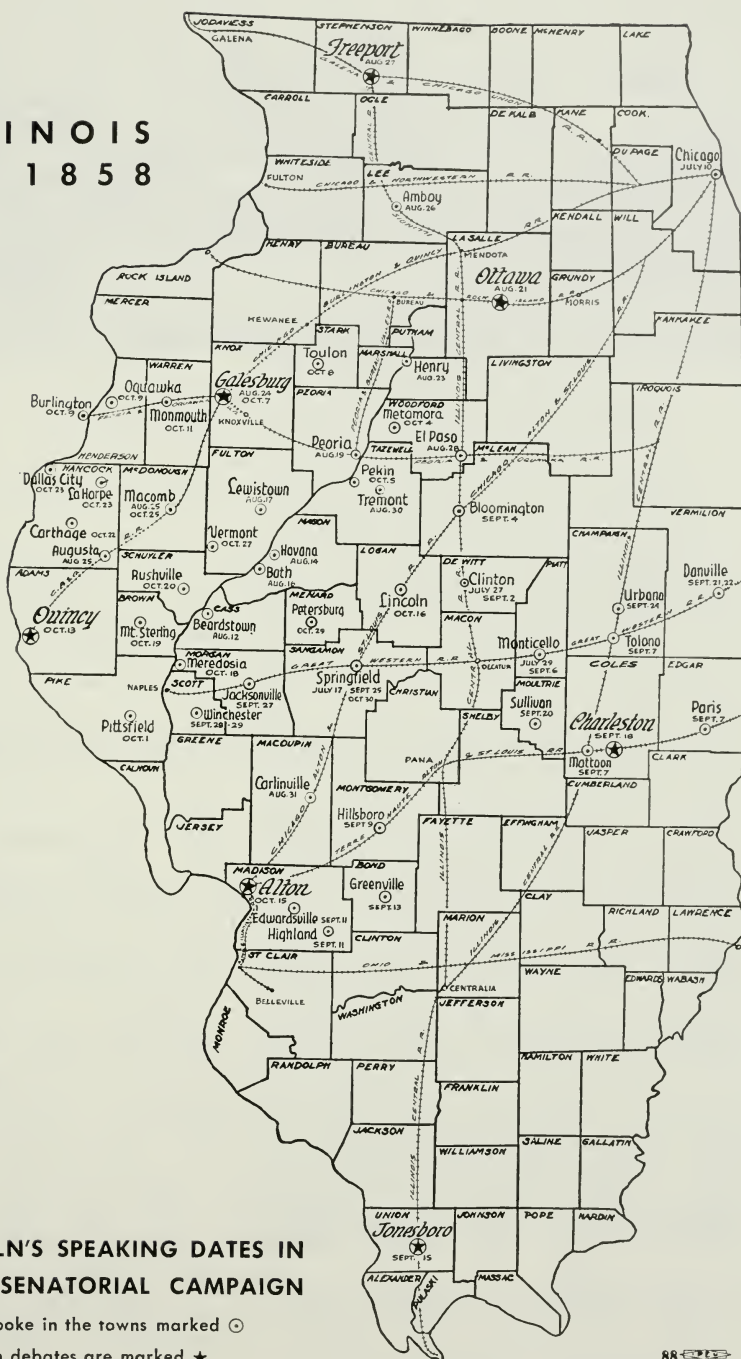
**ILLINOIS 1858**

**LOCATIONS AND DATES:**

- Chicago: July 8, 15
- Turner Jc.: Aug. 28
- Joliet: Aug. 31
- Parkdale: Sept. 25
- Kankakee: Sept. 25
- Onarga: Sept. 24
- Danville: Sept. 23
- Urbana: Sept. 22
- Paris: July 31
- Charleston: Sept. 16
- Mattoon: July 10
- Clinton: July 27
- Lincoln: July 4
- Springfield: July 17
- Alton: Oct. 15
- Edwardsville: Aug. 6
- Highland: Aug. 9
- St. Clair: Sept. 10
- Belleville: Sept. 10
- Waterloo: Sept. 11
- Chester: Sept. 13
- Union: Sept. 15
- Cairo: Sept. 16
- Peoria: Sept. 10
- Metamora: Sept. 10
- Washington: Sept. 10
- Decatur: Sept. 10
- Monticello: July 29
- Sullivan: Sept. 10
- St. Louis: Sept. 10
- Macomb: Oct. 9
- Lewistown: Aug. 16
- Havana: Aug. 13
- Walnut Hill: Aug. 13
- Beardstown: Aug. 11
- Jacksonville: Sept. 6
- Winchester: Aug. 7
- Gillespie: Oct. 16
- Hillsboro: Aug. 2
- Greenville: Aug. 4
- Centralia: Sept. 17
- Benton: Sept. 14
- Williamson: Sept. 14
- Franklin: Sept. 14
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The seven debates are marked ★

# ILLINOIS IN 1858

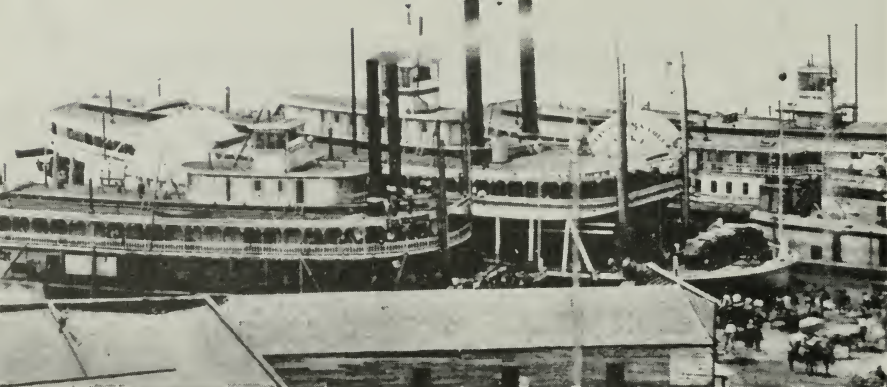


## LINCOLN'S SPEAKING DATES IN 1858 SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN

Lincoln spoke in the towns marked ○

The seven debates are marked ★





The White Cloud (on right) brought 300 "denizens of St. Louis" to the Alton debate. A large boat in her day, 345 tons, 200' x 35' x 5 1/2' with four boilers, double rudders, she was "very fast." Round trip fare, \$1.00.

Travel on the Illinois River from its mouth to Hennepin played a part, with each candidate shuttling back and forth between Pekin and Peoria. Douglas traveled the Mississippi from Quincy to Cairo.

Douglas' special train, with its flatcar at the end mounting a twelve-pound cannon, gave him more comfortable travel than Lincoln, also more expensive. Estimates of the latter's expenses were near \$1,000, while Douglas' were said to be near \$50,000. Mrs. Douglas accompanied her husband most of the time.

Lincoln made only four speeches in the twenty-six counties in northern or northeastern Illinois, the two joint debates at Ottawa and Freeport, a short speech at Amboy, and one at Chicago. Douglas made thirteen speeches in this area.

In facsimile below is a portion of a page of "notes" in Lincoln's handwriting used in the Jonesboro debate. This original page, the only such extant from the seven major debates, is now in the Illinois State Historical Library.

"If the people of Kansas shall,  
by means entirely unobjectionable in all  
other respects, adopt a State Constitu-  
tion, and ask admission into the  
Union under it before they have  
the requisite number of inhabitants  
according to the English Bill—some  
twenty three thousand—will you vote  
to admit them?"



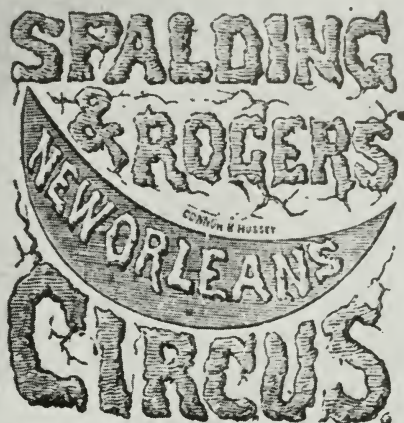
In the thirty-four southern counties, nicknamed Egypt, Lincoln spoke four times and Douglas ten. The I.C. R.R. bisects Egypt and in the eastern half neither candidate spoke except for one appearance by Douglas at Benton.

It has often been said that Lincoln followed Douglas throughout the campaign, because of his inability to draw a crowd. Examination of their itineraries shows that Lincoln followed Douglas only twenty-three out of eighty days, and seven of these were days of the joint debates.

In the Military Tract, west of the Illinois River in central Illinois, Douglas delivered eleven speeches to sixteen by Lincoln. Both found it convenient to speak in Burlington, Iowa. Douglas also went on to Terre Haute, Indiana, after his speech at Paris, and was out of the state a third time for a week-end visit to a fair in St. Louis, Missouri.

Lincoln and Douglas each found the ten weeks' campaign a severe physical strain. The weather varied from hot, steamy August days to days of continuous rain, and several days when shawls and overcoats were needed. Any train—passenger, freight or accommodation—was preferable to a carriage. Douglas' fifty-five-mile carriage trip from Sullivan to Danville was the longest of the campaign.

Lincoln stated at Petersburg on October 29 that it was his sixty-second speech of the campaign. There is substantiated record of only one more—at Springfield, the next day. Sixty-three speeches does not include short responses on the highways to delegations that came to meet him with brass bands, thirty-two ladies (one for each state), and leather-lunged glee clubs. At Wooster, Ohio, in 1859, Douglas said, "Last year in the Illinois canvas I made just 130 speeches." The total number, long and short, of Lincoln's speeches was somewhat less than Douglas' total. In forty of the towns they both spoke, in twenty-three Douglas only appeared, and in twelve Lincoln was the sole speaker.



**O**RGANIZED EXPRESSLY FOR THEIR  
NEW ORLEANS AMPHITHEATRE,  
and including their

**Three Circuses,**

in one immense consolidation, viz:

**THEIR FLOATING PALACE CIRCUS,**

from the Mississippi River.

**THEIR RAILROAD CIRCUS,**

from the Middle States, and

**THEIR NORTH AMERICAN CIRCUS,**

from the Eastern States.

**WILL EXHIBIT AT**

**SPRINGFIELD, MONDAY, SEPT. 6th,**

**ADMISSION.....Boxes, 50c. 1st, 25c.**

**At 10 A. M.** on the morning of arrival, the Ross Excelsior Band will be drawn through the principal streets by

**40 Horses Driven by One Man.**

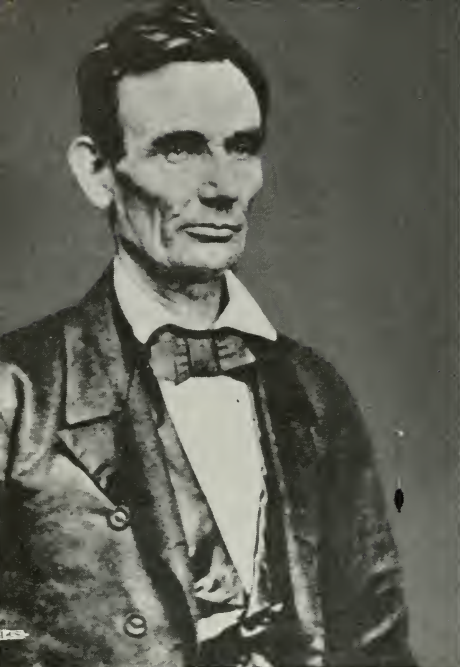
**And at 1 P. M., Mlle. ANNA will**

**TRUNDLE A WHEELBARROW**

**up a half inch wire from the ground to the top of the Centre Pole.**

**For particulars see Posters, Lithographs, &c., in public places.** aug23-dst

Douglas spoke in the Spalding & Rogers Circus tent in Lincoln, Illinois, on September 4, 1858. The circus went on to Springfield and to Hillsboro, where Lincoln stood in a circus wagon under the "big top" with rain drowning out much of his address.



Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) at the time of debates with Douglas in 1858.

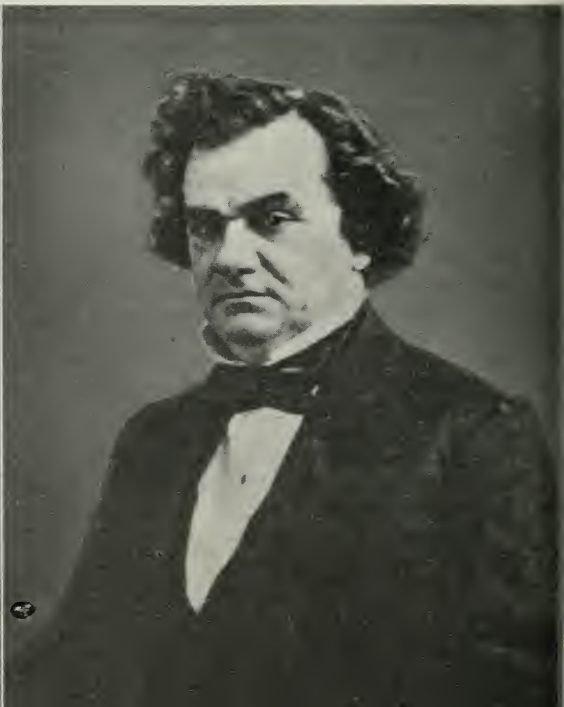


Mary Todd Lincoln, intensely interested in politics, attended the debate at Alton.

Adele Cutts Douglas accompanied her husband during the fierce campaign.



Stephen A. Douglas (1813-1861) at the time of the debates with Lincoln in 1858.



## LINCOLN-DOUGLAS ITINERARY

**JULY 27—CLINTON**—Douglas opens his campaign. His special train is late, and he does not reach the fairgrounds a mile north of town until 3:30 p.m. He is introduced by Joseph Howard, and speaks for three hours, the people standing in the sun. Lincoln arrives on the Illinois Central from Decatur at 7:22 a.m., and hears Douglas speak to an estimated crowd of 5,000. The Democratic *Springfield Illinois State Register* says Lincoln looks like "a lost boy at a corn shucking." In the evening Lincoln speaks in the courthouse.

**JULY 28—DECATUR**—Douglas comes in on the morning train, and he and Lincoln dine together at the Oglesby House, guests of J. W. Sponsler, the proprietor. Douglas goes east in the evening on the Great Western Railroad to Bement on his way to Monticello.

**JULY 29—MONTICELLO**—Douglas speaks in the afternoon to more than 3,000 despite an all-morning rain. On his return to Bement he meets Lincoln on his way to Monticello. Douglas urges his opponent to return to Bement, promising him a larger crowd than he will have in Monticello. Lincoln hands Douglas his reply to Douglas' letter of July 24 suggesting the places of seven joint debates. In the grove in Monticello, where Douglas had spoken two hours before, Lincoln addresses a small crowd and takes the midnight train at Bement for Springfield. There is a tradition that Lincoln and Douglas met some time in the evening at the Francis Bryant home in Bement where Douglas remained overnight.

**JULY 30—MATTOON**—Douglas rides on the Great Western from Bement to Tolono and catches the Illinois Central train to Mattoon, where he stops at the Pennsylvania Hotel. In the evening he speaks there to the assembled crowd, concluding early in order to catch the 10:40 p.m. Terre Haute, Alton & St. Louis train east to Paris. The train is very late, due to an acci-

dent, and does not reach Mattoon until 3:30 a.m.

**JULY 31—PARIS**—Douglas arrives at 6 a.m. He speaks in Col. Alexander's grove to a crowd estimated by the Democrats at 10,000. The Clark County Rangers are on parade, and trains from the east bring in several hundred Hoosiers. Usher F. Linder, prominent Charleston attorney, follows Douglas and receives great applause for his praise of the Senator. Douglas goes on to Terre Haute on the evening train, and spends Sunday (August 1) at the home of Dr. Reed.

**AUGUST 2—HILLSBORO**—Douglas arrives from Terre Haute at 10 a.m. for the afternoon rally at the fairgrounds. Banners proclaim "Douglas the Representative of Democratic Principles" and "Douglas the Champion of Popular Sovereignty." Circuit Judge Edward Y. Rice introduces the Senator. An approaching storm forces Douglas to shorten his address. In the evening he speaks to the assembled folks from the roof of the hotel porch. He remains in Hillsboro until the following noon, when he is driven twenty miles south to Greenville and is met by a great "outpouring of citizens."

**AUGUST 4—GREENVILLE**—Douglas is introduced by Samuel Stevenson who pays tribute to the Senator's long public service. Douglas speaks for two hours.

**AUGUST 5—HIGHLAND**—Douglas goes cross-country fifteen miles to the Swiss town of Highland, where he is tendered a banquet. Many of the 2,000 inhabitants turn out to see the Illinois senator, who speaks for two hours.

**AUGUST 6—EDWARDSVILLE**—Douglas is escorted to Edwardsville from Highland by Congressman Robert Smith and others, to the fine mansion of Taylor Brown. The Madison Guards under Captain Schloss escort him to the fairgrounds of the Madison County Agricultural Society. A brief introduction is given by Judge Dale. The extreme heat probably cuts short



Douglas' speech. At the close he sets out for Alton, where a crowd gathers upon his arrival at 7 p.m. and escorts him to the river, where at 8:30 he embarks on the Illinois River packet *James B. Curran*.

AUGUST 7—WINCHESTER — The *James B. Curran* reaches Florence this morning. Here a delegation of Democrats meets their champion and escorts him to Winchester, where a quarter century ago he had first settled in Illinois and taught school. Some of his old pupils and their children are in the crowd. The Rev. Bennett delivers an eloquent speech of welcome. Douglas speaks at 2 p.m. in a grove, alluding to his honest efforts to "make a beginning in the world." He remains at Winchester over Sunday (August 8).

AUGUST 9—PITTSFIELD — "The Judge" (Douglas) is escorted from Winchester by a delegation from Pittsfield. At Florence the delegation is met by the Detroit Brass Band. In the afternoon Douglas addresses a crowd estimated at from three to ten thousand, depending upon the politics of the editor—"one of the largest popular gatherings that ever assembled in the Military Tract." After his speech he is taken in a carriage from Pittsfield to Florence where he boards the *Sam Young* for Beardstown.

AUGUST 11—BEARDSTOWN—At 11 a.m. the cry "the boat is in sight" is heard on the streets, and the crowd rushes to the river bank to see the Little Giant. He is escorted to the National House. After dinner he takes a seat in the front of the hotel to watch a parade. He later speaks to a wildly cheering crowd, after being introduced by Judge Charles Rich.

AUGUST 12 — BEARDSTOWN — WALNUT HILL—Lincoln opens his campaign against Douglas. Arriving at Naples on the evening of the 11th on the Great Western from Springfield, he comes up the Illinois River this morning on the 294-ton side-wheel packet *Samuel Gaty*. At Beardstown he is met by the Rushville and Arenzville bands, two military companies and several hundred Republicans, who escort him to

the National House. At 2 p.m. he begins his two-hour speech, which includes a denial of Douglas' charge that he (Lincoln) favors negro equality—it is false logic that assumes because a man does "not want a negro woman for a slave, he must needs want her for a wife." \* Douglas is said to have gone by carriage ten miles east of Beardstown to Walnut Hill to address a rally. He takes a boat on the Illinois River for Havana. At Bath a crowd of about 300 comes to the dock to greet him.

AUGUST 13—HAVANA — Douglas speaks to 6,000 at a grove north of Havana. He is introduced by Judge Campbell. As he concludes, young and old come forward to shake his hand. While he is still speaking, the steamer *Senator* docks at the wharf with Lincoln aboard. He is greeted by a crowd, goes off the boat leaving behind his carpet-bag and umbrella, hurries back for them, and is escorted to the residence of Francis Law.

AUGUST 14 — HAVANA-LEWISTOWN — Delegations pour into Havana despite the heat, and surround the stand when Lincoln begins to speak at 2 p.m. At 4 p.m. he concludes, three hearty cheers going up for him, and William Kellogg of Canton, candidate for Congress, takes the stand for an hour. \* Douglas drives from Havana to Lewistown with Col. Lewis W. Ross and State Senator William C. Goudy, at whose home he is a guest until Tuesday, August 17. He speaks briefly at 10:30 p.m. from the porch to a group of admirers led by Hasson & Boyd's Band.

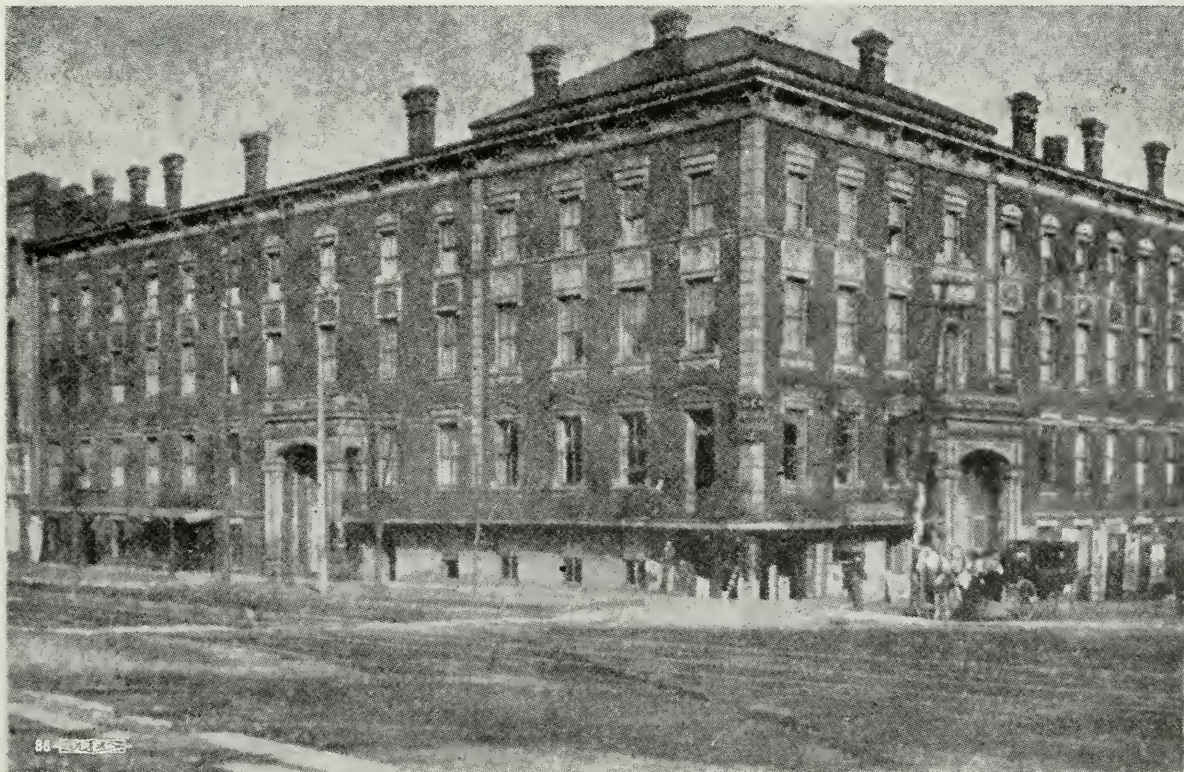
AUGUST 16—BATH-LEWISTOWN — Lincoln speaks in Bath (a wooded wilderness when he surveyed it in 1836, the last of his five town surveys). On the platform are several who had served in the same companies with him in the Black Hawk War. A large crowd has assembled to hear him, and "all pronounced it a good day's work." \* Immediately after the close of the Fulton County Democratic convention Senator Douglas is escorted to Proctor's Grove at Lewistown. Fulton

County has long been Democratic and Douglas a political idol for fifteen years. H. L. Bryant introduces him. After an hour the Judge's voice gives out and Col. Ross takes over. Douglas speaks briefly to the crowd serenading him in the evening.

AUGUST 17 — LEWISTOWN — Lincoln, coming from Bath, is met two miles out of Lewistown by a cavalcade of horsemen and buggies and the Canton Brass Band. George Phelps makes a reception speech to which Lincoln responds. Lincoln speaks at 2 p.m. from a stand erected in front of the large columns of the courthouse portico, following an introduction by William Kellogg. Lincoln's two-hour speech, which includes a "noble and impressive apostrophe to the Declaration of Independence," is followed by a three-hour address by Kellogg, who then drives Lincoln to his home

in Canton. \* Douglas arrives in Canton in the evening, where he is the guest of John G. Graham, candidate for state representative. He is serenaded on his arrival.

AUGUST 18—PEORIA—Both Lincoln and Douglas are driven from Canton to Elmwood this morning. A special train on the Peoria & Oquawka Railroad arrives to escort the Judge to that city. Lincoln also travels to Peoria, on a regular train, registers at the Peoria House. The firing of cannon on Douglas' arrival at Peoria at 1:30 p.m. calls the Democrats together, the Emmet Guards forming the guard of honor, for a parade to the courthouse square. There Washington Cockle introduces the Senator, who addresses a crowd totaling 10,000 by Democratic estimates. Julius C. Manning of Toulon is master of ceremonies. Col. Wood's two steamers



Lincoln arrives in Peoria on the evening of August 18 and registers at the Peoria House. He speaks on the courthouse square the following day. He is a guest at the Peoria House on October 3-5; on the last evening he is serenaded by Sushizky's Apollo Band. Douglas was a guest at the Peoria House on September 29-30. He occupies Room 16, which is assigned to Lincoln a few days later.





The home of Mayor Joseph O. Glover of Ottawa where Lincoln is a week-end guest at the time of the first Lincoln-Douglas debate. Arriving on a special train, Lincoln is "placed in a carriage beautifully decorated with evergreens and mottoes by the young ladies of Ottawa, and escorted around the square, and to the residence of Mayor Glover. Enormous crowds blocked the streets and side-walks . . . and the shouts of the multitude rolled in a continuous tumult."

containing an animal show play Peoria today and then follow Douglas to Lacon.

**AUGUST 19—PEORIA-LACON** — Lincoln attends the Fourth District Republican Congressional convention in the morning. At 2 p.m. he is introduced by James M. Knox of Knoxville and addresses 3,000 gathered on the east side of the public square, but is interrupted by a heavy shower. When it subsides to a drizzle he again takes the stand. William Kellogg, renominated for Congress at the morning convention, follows. \* Douglas, having traveled north on the Peoria & Bureau Valley Railroad the preceding evening, crosses the Illinois River to Lacon where he speaks.

**AUGUST 21—OTTAWA (First Joint Debate)**—A special train of seventeen

cars from Chicago on the Chicago & Rock Island Railroad picks up Lincoln at Morris, where he has been the overnight guest of Judge William T. Hopkins after arriving by train from Peoria on the previous evening. An immense crowd assembled at the Ottawa depot at noon greets Lincoln. He is welcomed by Mayor Joseph O. Glover, whose guest he is over the week-end, and escorted to the Mansion House. \* Douglas' eleven-car train, picking up the Senator at Peru where he has stayed overnight, is met by a throng of Democrats three miles west of Ottawa. He rides in a four-horse carriage to the Geiger House, where he is welcomed in a speech by H. W. H. Cushman. \* The debate opens in Lafayette Square at 2 p.m. Shorthand reporters



and representatives of the press so fill the stand as to leave little room for the timekeepers and speakers. Douglas speaks for an hour; Lincoln replies, not using all his allotted hour and a half, and Douglas concludes in a half hour. The crowd is estimated at 10,000. Writing to J. O. Cunningham, Urbana attorney, on the following day, Lincoln says: "Douglas and I, first time this Canvass, crossed swords here yesterday; the fire flew some and I am glad to know I am yet alive. There was a vast concourse of people."

AUGUST 23—HENRY—Lincoln leaves Ottawa between 3 and 4 a.m. for Henry, where several thousand have come to hear "the people's choice for United States Senator." In the evening he hears Owen Lovejoy. He remains overnight in Peoria.

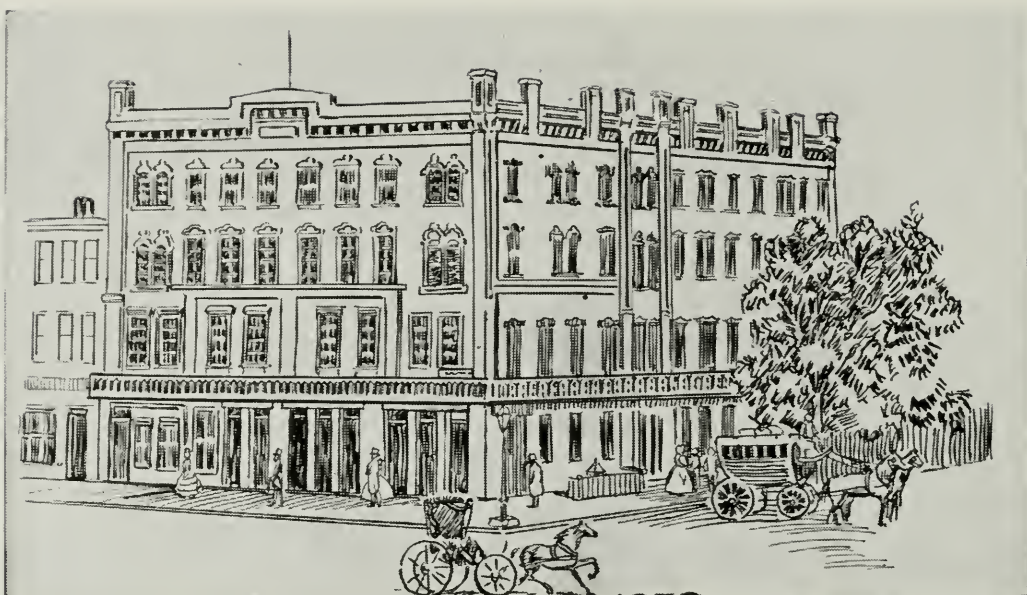
AUGUST 24—GALESBURG — Lincoln leaves Peoria at 8:30 a.m. and arrives at Galesburg at 3:30 p.m. on the Peoria & Oquawka. He stops at the Bancroft House. A crowd gathers, and with some urging he speaks briefly, asking all "to stand fast." They escort him to the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy depot, where he takes a train for Augusta.

AUGUST 25—AUGUSTA-MACOMB-GALENA—Lincoln attends the Fifth District Republican Congressional convention in the Presbyterian Church in Augusta in the morning. His friend Jackson Grimshaw of Quincy is nominated for Congress. Lincoln is the dinner guest of James Stark, where he enjoys sweet potatoes, honey, green beans and peach cobbler. At 2 p.m. he speaks to 1,200 at Catlin's Grove. Rain begins before Lincoln's speech, but the Republican press reported "Not a single person left the ground! . . . They didn't come to hear a *dry* speaker, and he wasn't addressing a *dry* audience," and called the speech "one immense mass of logical arguments woven like a network into a solid battery." Lincoln catches the late afternoon train for Macomb, and makes a speech at the courthouse in the evening, directed particularly at

the old Clay Whigs. \* Douglas addresses a concourse of several thousand in a grove on the east side of Fever River at Galena. The *Galena Courier* complains that all are going to Freeport on Friday; that all that came are a boatload of "Hibernians from Dubuque, and a small squad of our Irish fellow-citizens from Shullsburgh, Wisconsin. They marched up and deployed in front of the DeSoto House before Douglas the great Dred Scottite would show himself." The Republican press declared his speech "candleboxy and as leaden as Galena."

AUGUST 26—AMBOY — Lincoln checks out of the Randolph Hotel at Macomb, has his ambrotype taken by T. P. Pearson and boards the morning C. B. & Q. train for Mendota. Here he changes to the Illinois Central for Amboy. He speaks briefly in the evening, suggesting that people go to Freeport on the morrow.

AUGUST 27—FREEPORT (Second Joint Debate)—Lincoln arrives at 10 a.m. on a special train to be greeted by 5,000, who escort him to the new Brewster House. He makes a short speech in reply to the welcome of Thomas J. Turner from the balcony, "which set the crowd in a blaze of enthusiasm." \* Douglas arrived last evening and a torchlight parade escorted him to the Brewster House. At 2 p.m. Douglas walks the two blocks to the stand. Lincoln arrives in a Conestoga wagon drawn by six horses. The cold, damp day does not chill the enthusiasm of a crowd estimated at from 12,000 to 15,000. Lincoln has the hour-long beginning speech and the half-hour conclusion, while Douglas speaks for an hour and a half. Lincoln propounds a series of questions to Douglas, including the famous "Freeport question"—"Can the people of a United States Territory, in any lawful way, against the wish of any citizen of the United States, exclude slavery from its limits prior to the formation of a State Constitution?" Douglas' affirmative answer aids him in the senatorial race, but is fatal to his presidential prospects.



Douglas arrived in Freeport the evening before the scheduled debate. He was escorted to the new Brewster House where he is an overnight guest. Lincoln arrived the morning of the debate, August 27, and is taken by the Republicans to the Brewster House. He is welcomed by Mayor Turner. Douglas walks from the Brewster House to the speaking platform; Lincoln rides with Republican leaders in a wagon drawn by six horses.

AUGUST 28 — EL PASO-TURNER JUNCTION—"Old Abe was here [El Paso] for an hour on Saturday, *en route* for Peoria. We soon gathered a crowd around him, and he answered and set at rest the foul aspersions that Douglas and his followers are with such bold effrontery passing current through the land." Arriving on the Illinois Central at 3:40 p.m., Lincoln also has time to lunch at Baron Louis Chlopicki's restaurant before boarding the Peoria & Oquawka at 5:30. \* Douglas arrives at Turner Junction (now West Chicago) at 3:25 p.m. on the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad. His reception by a cannon and several bands is enthusiastic despite the shawls and overcoats worn against the cold. He speaks for nearly two hours before leaving for Chicago. Captain Joseph Naper of Naperville presides, and 1,500 listen to the speech.

AUGUST 30—TREMONT—Lincoln arrives at Pekin by boat from Peoria on Sunday evening (August 29) and is driven to Tremont by John A. Jones, whose guest he is for the night. Monday

morning the Tazewell County Republican convention meets. At 1:30 p.m. Lincoln speaks for two hours in front of the courthouse. He recalls his campaigns into Tazewell since 1840. He is followed by William Kellogg. The Democratic press says Lincoln "looks jaded and worn down, and I would not be surprised if he fails altogether before the canvass is closed."

AUGUST 31—CARLINVILLE-JOLIET—Lincoln is taken by carriage from Tremont to Bloomington to catch the morning train on the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis for Carlinville. On arrival there he is conducted to the American House. At 3 p.m. a thousand people at Morton's Grove hear him deliver "an honest, logical and telling speech." He is followed by John M. Palmer, who deals "terrific blows to the bogus Democracy in every sentence." \* After a week-end of rest Douglas speaks in Joliet. His address is a long one, filling nearly six columns in the *St. Louis Missouri Republican*.

SEPTEMBER 2—CLINTON-PONTIAC—Lincoln has a few hours at home in Springfield on September 1 after his



first twenty-day campaign tour. At 10 o'clock that evening he takes the Great Western train for Decatur with Horace White, *Chicago Press & Tribune* reporter. White is carried to the Indiana line when Lincoln fails to awaken him. Lincoln takes the morning Illinois Central train north to Clinton, but is forced to go on to Wapella so that the Clinton citizens can escort him back with a procession. The barbecue brings out 5,000, most of whom are present when Clifton H. Moore introduces Lincoln at "one of the most enthusiastic gatherings since the days of Tippecanoe and Tyler too." Lincoln is the guest of Moore, with whom he has tried many cases for the Illinois Central. \* Douglas takes the regular train on the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis Railroad which brings him into Pontiac, the twelve-pound cannon booming from the flatcar at the rear. He is met by the Livingston Light Guards under the command of the old Texas Ranger, Captain Payne, who escort him to the courthouse where it seems all the town's 1,200 inhabitants have gathered. He is greeted by A. E. Harding, and speaks for three hours, after which he inquires if anyone has questions to ask, which he answers with much vigor.

SEPTEMBER 4—BLOOMINGTON-LINCOLN-SPRINGFIELD—Lincoln takes the Illinois Central to Bloomington on September 3 and is the guest of Judge David Davis. He writes Dr. William Fithian of Danville: "My recent experience shows that speaking at the same place the next day after D. is the very thing—it is, in fact, a concluding speech on him." At 2 p.m. on the 4th the courthouse bell signals the formation of a procession which proceeds to the Davis home and escorts Lincoln to the courthouse square, where he addresses 6,000 people. On the way back to Springfield he stops off at Lincoln to hear Douglas. \* Douglas' train on the C.A. & St.L. is met at the Logan County line by a train from Lincoln. Lionel P. Lacey welcomes the Judge and Douglas replies. In Lincoln, because

of the high wind, Douglas speaks in the Spalding & Rogers circus tent. In Springfield his train is met at the C.A. & St.L. depot by the Democrat Club, who escort him in an open carriage to the St. Nicholas Hotel. He replies to John A. McClelland's reception speech.

SEPTEMBER 6—MONTICELLO-JACKSONVILLE—After a Sunday at home, Lincoln takes the morning train on the Great Western to Bement. A trainload of followers meets him at Decatur and escorts him to Bement and thence overland to Monticello. He is met a half mile from town by thirty-two young ladies on horseback, representing the states, and a corresponding number of young men. A barbecue attracts 7,000. Lincoln replies to L. J. Bond's speech of welcome at Monticello. After the barbecue Lincoln is introduced by Thomas Milligan and speaks for two hours. He calls attention to the 1856 campaign when his reception consisted of one man carrying a large flag, himself and an audience of thirty people. \* Douglas' special train leaves Springfield at 6:30 a.m. for Jacksonville on the Great Western, arriving there at 10 a.m. Col. William B. Warren greets the Democratic leader at the depot, and the Morgan Light Guard, Rescue Fire Company No. 2, Capt. Parsons' Rifle Company, and Merritt's Cornet Band escort him to the Dunlap House. The speaking begins at 1 p.m. The *Illinois State Register* announced that 10,000 were present. Benjamin F. Bristow in "his usual ornate and happy style" introduces the speaker of the day. Douglas alludes to his career in Jacksonville from 1834 to 1837 then turns his attention to the "falsehoods" of Lincoln and U.S. Senator Lyman Trumbull.

SEPTEMBER 7—TOLONO-MATTOON-PARIS—Lincoln is driven from Monticello to Bement, where he takes the Great Western train to Tolono, arriving after midnight, where a crowd has gathered and "forces" him to make a short speech while waiting for the Illinois Central train going south to



Mattoon. He arrives in Mattoon at 6 a.m., addresses a crowd from the Essex House at the junction of the I.C. R.R. and the T.H.A. & St.L. R.R., and leaves at 1 p.m. on the latter road for Paris. "The Tall Sucker" is escorted by a brass band to Col. Alexander's grove, where Owen Lovejoy is speaking. He stops, and Lincoln speaks for two hours. In the evening Lovejoy and Richard J. Oglesby speak at the courthouse.

SEPTEMBER 8—CARLINVILLE — Douglas speaks for two hours to the largest crowd ever assembled in Carlinville—some 8,000. He is escorted by the band of the Alton Jaegers to the City Hotel, and later to a grove near the railroad, where he is presented by Judge Gilbert and speaks for two hours. His train takes him to Alton where he takes a boat to St. Louis, arriving on the morning of September 9. He stops at the Planters House, visits the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association Fair, and in the evening speaks briefly to a crowd of well-wishers.

SEPTEMBER 9 — HILLSBORO — "A constant stream of old friends" calls at Joseph T. Eccles' home in Hillsboro in the morning, where Lincoln has stayed overnight after arriving the previous evening on the T.H.A. & St.L. R.R. The Spalding & Rogers Circus advances the time of its performance so that the Republicans can follow with their meeting under the "big top." The rain is so noisy on the tent that the Republicans have difficulty hearing Lincoln's two-hour speech, in which he tells many amusing stories. "The circus follows the crowds drawn together to hear Douglas," said the Democratic *State Register*. "Lincoln follows the circus to get the ear of the crowd assembled to witness the antics of the clowns."

SEPTEMBER 10 — BELLEVILLE—Douglas and five hundred friends cross the Mississippi by ferry from St. Louis to Illinoistown (now East St. Louis), proceeding to Belleville by the Belleville & Illinoistown Railroad. Arriving at 11 a.m., Douglas stops at the Na-

tional Hotel, where he is soon called out by a crowd of admirers for a brief speech. In the afternoon he makes a long address in a nearby grove to a larger crowd than expected, due to the popularity of a mechanical and agricultural fair in town.

SEPTEMBER 11 — EDWARDSVILLE-HIGHLAND-WATERLOO—Lincoln leaves Alton (where he has stayed overnight after coming from Hillsboro by train) in a carriage for Edwardsville, where he dines at the home of Matthew Gillespie. At 1 p.m. the Madison Guards under Capt. Schloss and the Edwardsville Band escort Lincoln to the courthouse, where he is introduced by Joseph Gillespie. The *Tribune* reporter is impressed by "the quiet autumn day in the quaint old town; the serious people clustered around the platform." Lincoln and Joseph Gillespie spend the evening in Highland, where Lincoln is much interested in the Swiss there, and they in him; he makes a short speech. He stays overnight in Highland, and continues by carriage the next day (Sunday) to Greenville. \* Douglas speaks in Waterloo.

SEPTEMBER 13 — GREENVILLE-CHESTER —Lincoln, who has stayed overnight with Thomas S. Smith, speaks from 1 to 3 p.m. at Colcord's grove in the southwest part of town. The audience occupied seats "only 12 or 15 inches from the ground" consisting of "boards laid on small uprights and were without backs. As the people sat down . . . the knees of many of them almost touched their chins." He is not an abolitionist, he declares, nor has he ever been in favor of interfering with slavery in the states where it exists; but he believes slavery is a great moral, social and political evil. After the speech he attends a benefit social, being served ice cream flavored with crushed peach leaves. Called upon, Lincoln makes a few remarks before leaving by carriage for Vandalia where he catches the Illinois Central for Centralia, visits the State Fair, and stays overnight. \* Douglas speaks at Chester.

SEPTEMBER 14 — CAIRO — Douglas' arrival at 9 a.m. on the *James H. Lucas* is announced by cannon fire. The steamer *Dan Pollard* brings a delegation from Mound City. Escorted by S. S. Taylor and S. S. Brooks to the Taylor House, Douglas shakes hands with many friends. In the afternoon he is introduced by Judge Isham N. Haynie and speaks from a platform erected in front of the Taylor House. Usher F. Linder of Charleston follows. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas attend the ball in the evening.

SEPTEMBER 15 — JONESBORO (Third Joint Debate) — Douglas arrives at Jonesboro on the Illinois Central with several carloads of supporters. Lincoln arrived the day before and spent the evening watching Donati's comet. The crowd is the smallest of all the debates—1,200. At the conclusion of the debate Usher F. Linder makes a short Douglas speech, and John Dougherty, Buchanan Democratic candidate for State treasurer, denounces the Douglasites. Lincoln expects small results from this debate, as Union County gave the Republicans only 46 votes out of 1,575 in 1856. \* The next day Lincoln goes to Centralia on the Illinois Central, stops at the Centralia House, and spends the afternoon at the State Fair, where he attracts much attention. That evening he takes the Illinois Central to Mattoon. He makes no speeches between the Jonesboro and Charleston debates.

SEPTEMBER 16—BENTON — The Douglasses go to Benton, where the Judge speaks at the request of John A. Logan. Some 4,000 from Franklin County are on hand to hear him denounce as "an unmitigated falsehood" Lincoln's charge of conspiracy in the issuing of the Dred Scott decision.

SEPTEMBER 17—CENTRALIA — Douglas attempts to answer the attacks which the "big guns" of the Buchanan faction—Sidney Breese, John Reynolds and John Dougherty—have made on him in speeches of the previous evening. Douglas, however, has "been keeping spirits up by pouring spirits

down" and soon gives way to John A. Logan.

SEPTEMBER 18 — CHARLESTON (Fourth Joint Debate)—The Lincoln procession, led by the Bowling Green Band from Indiana, starts from Mattoon for Charleston, gathering additional wagons, carriages and horsemen along the way. The two-mile-long procession halts before the Capitol House in Charleston, where H. P. H. Bromwell welcomes Lincoln. Between the courthouse and a building across the street hangs an eighty-foot-long banner inscribed on one side "Coles County Four Hundred Majority for Lincoln," with a painting of "Old Abe Thirty Years Ago," driving three yoke of Oxen," on the reverse. \* Douglas arrives in Mattoon at 3 a.m. on the Illinois Central from Centralia. As his procession prepares to start for Charleston at 8 a.m., Col. James T. Cunningham welcomes the Judge to Coles County, and the latter responds. Arriving in Charleston before the Union Hotel, a welcome speech is made by Orlando B. Ficklin, to which Douglas replies. \* The debate is held in the afternoon on the fairgrounds one mile west of Charleston. During its course Lincoln calls Ficklin to the front of the stand to answer Douglas' charges as to his (Lincoln's) votes in Congress on the Mexican War. \* Lincoln spends the night at the home of Thomas A. Marshall, State senate candidate, where an evening reception is held. The following day, Sunday, he visits with his stepmother and other relatives in and near Charleston.

SEPTEMBER 20—SULLIVAN—Douglas is scheduled to speak in Sullivan at 10 a.m., but is late in leaving Mattoon, escorted by the Mattoon Brass Band, thirty-two young ladies on horseback and many carriages and wagons. This procession is met two and a half miles east of Sullivan by the Shelbyville Brass Band and thirty-two more young ladies. After a half-hour of vociferous cheering the combined procession proceeds to Sullivan. One-half mile from town Lincoln is noted



on Judge James Elder's porch, and a great cheer goes up for Douglas. \* Lincoln has originally been scheduled to speak at 2 p.m., but sends a pencilled note to Douglas, agreeing to postpone his speech to 3 p.m. "if he will announce the fact, so that I can understand it." Douglas receives the note while at lunch in the Eagle House, assents, and makes the announcement at the beginning of his speech at 1 p.m. from a stand on the east side of the courthouse. He is introduced by John R. Eden. \* Shortly after two o'clock some of

A Canton department store used the Douglas and Lincoln campaign theme in its advertising in the Fulton Ledger of Canton.

Lincoln's supporters, including a brass band, on their way to Freedland's grove, march near the square, interrupting Douglas' speech. The Judge continues, saying "I can speak louder than their noise," but the Democrats pull the driver of the band wagon off his seat and a brawl is narrowly averted. The near conflict is retold in ever-changing versions throughout the campaign. Douglas concludes his speech and is followed on the stand by Anthony Thornton of Shelbyville, a former Whig turned Democrat. \* Lincoln makes his speech at Freedland's grove, north of town.

SEPTEMBER 21 — DANVILLE — Douglas arrives in Danville at 4 a.m. He is "escorted to one of the Hotels and *put to bed.*" In the afternoon he speaks for two and a half hours in a grove a mile southeast of town to a crowd of 8,000 (by Democratic estimate). \* Lincoln arrives on the 7 p.m. train. Mrs. Douglas is on the same train. Lincoln is escorted by friends a half mile to the home of his old friend in the legislature, Dr. William Fithian. Retiring to a second-floor bedroom, Lincoln removes his boots. When a crowd assembles and calls for a speech, he cannot readily get them on, so steps onto a balcony without them and makes a short speech. He remains at Fithian's overnight.

SEPTEMBER 22 — DANVILLE — By 11 a.m. Danville is "chuck full," with banners across the streets, one reading "Free Territory for White Men," and another "A. Lincoln, the People's Choice." The procession to the grove is headed by Reynolds' Brass Band, and includes 32 young ladies from Ridgefarm and 37 (one for each Territory as well as State), each from Danville, Catlin and Georgetown. A dinner was spread out on three 300-foot-long tables, after which Lincoln speaks at what he calls "a fine and altogether satisfactory meeting."

SEPTEMBER 23 — URBANA — Douglas speaks from the bandstand on the last day of the Champaign County Agricultural Fair to a large crowd.

**DOUGLAS & LINCOLN**  
AT  
**CANTON.**

THE friends of Douglas and Lincoln, hold  
a Grand  
**MASS MEETING**  
AT OUR STORE  
**Every Day,**

Not for the purpose of discussing the political  
questions of the day, but for the  
purchasing at  
**Very Low Prices,**  
**STAPLE AND FANCY**  
**DRY GOODS,**  
**Boots, Shoes, Hats and Caps, and**  
**CLOTHING.**

Of which we have the largest and best Stock  
in Fulton County for sale exclusively  
for ready pay, either for  
**Cash, or most kinds of Country Produce**  
Our motto—one price for ready pay,  
the "nimble sixpence better than the slow  
shilling."

**J. H. STIPP & CO.**  
Canton, Oct. 12, 1858.

**NEW GOODS!**  
AT THE  
**N. E. CORNER OF THE SQUARE**



He arrived in town the preceding day and attended the Fair.

SEPTEMBER 24—URBANA-ONARGA—Lincoln left Danville on the 23rd taking the Great Western to Tolono and the Illinois Central to West Urbana (Champaign), arriving about 3 p.m. Escorted to Bradley's residence, he is called upon in the evening by friends and serenaded by three brass bands. On the 24th a procession of 2,000 people forms in West Urbana, swelling to 4,000 by the time it leaves Urbana for the fairgrounds. Lincoln is seated at the head of a long table where a barbecued meal is spread out for all. He speaks after the dinner, and again in the evening at the Evert House. When he concludes, "Deacon" William Bross of the *Chicago Press & Tribune* speaks in the courthouse. \* Douglas' train on the Illinois Central, en route from West Urbana to Kankakee, halts at 1 p.m. at Onarga, a village of 300 people. The day is raw and cloudy with a cold wind blowing, but the Kankakee Brass Band and 300 Douglasites are present. A flatcar carrying Capt. Townsend and the Kankakee Flying Artillery with one of their guns is attached to the train. Douglas is welcomed by Judge Chamberly: "In the name of the Democracy . . . of the County of Iroquois, whom you have to-day honored with a visit, I welcome you here." A feature of the gathering is a thirteen-yoke ox team attached to a Conestoga wagon from Spring Creek.

SEPTEMBER 25—SPRINGFIELD-KANKAKEE—Lincoln returns home to Springfield on the Great Western after an absence of three weeks, in "excellent health and spirits." At the close of the Republican Club's evening meeting its members march to Lincoln's home at Eighth and Jackson streets and the band plays several selections. "Mr. Lincoln appeared on the portico and thanked his friends for this renewed manifestation of their regard for the principles he defends." He retires "amid deafening cheers." He remains at home until Monday morning (the 27th). \* Douglas ad-

resses a crowd of 800 to 1,000 people in Kankakee. T. Lyle Dickey of Ottawa follows in the evening. Douglas spends the weekend in Chicago.

SEPTEMBER 27 — JACKSONVILLE — At 7 a.m. a large crowd escorts Lincoln from the Statehouse to the Great Western depot in Springfield, where he and the Springfield delegation take a train for Jacksonville. They arrive at 11 a.m. and are met by large delegations from Morgan, Cass and Scott counties. Francis P. Blair, Jr., of St. Louis, speaks from the stand in the courthouse yard, followed by Lincoln for two hours and a half. James C. Conkling of Springfield addresses an overflow meeting. For the first time the Democratic *State Register* admits that the "Black Republicans secured a large meeting." At night a third of the afternoon's 15,000 crowd listen to Milton Hay of Springfield and Richard Yates of Jacksonville.

SEPTEMBER 28 — WINCHESTER-HENNEPIN—A large procession of carriages travels the eighteen miles from Jacksonville to Winchester. Lincoln is late but overtakes his escort. "His horses were white with sweat and he and his friends were black with dust." A large crowd attends a barbecue a mile west of Winchester, where Lincoln speaks. Two months earlier his friend Nathan M. Knapp had urged him to come, saying: "You are justified now in unsheathing the sword & throwing the scabbard away. Run back on his track, reveal in your way his tortuosity, pitch into his motives; things that look stale to you the masses never knew, or have forgotten, or fail to place in juxtaposition with his recent attitudes." \* Great enthusiasm is shown in the welcome of Douglas to Hennepin, an Illinois River town of 1,500, though the crowd is reported to be not as large as generally turns out because of the large percentage of abolitionists in Putnam County. A large flag "Welcome Douglas" flies at the hotel. The Senator and Judge T. Lyle Dickey are taken to the stand on

the fairgrounds, where both address the people. The National (Buchanan) Democrats with bands hold a meeting nearby, which arouses the temper of Douglas' followers.

SEPTEMBER 29—WINCHESTER-HENRY—Lincoln, after spending the day in John Moses' law office going over Douglas' record in the *Congressional Globe*, speaks in the evening in the Scott County courthouse. \* The Democrats of Henry, unable to secure cannon, obtain four anvils to ring out a welcome to Douglas. The arch across the street carries the inscription, "Our Senator, Now, Our President in 1860." The Hon. Mr. Dawson welcomes the Judge. From a platform in the public square Douglas goes into great detail on his efforts in Congress to get the land grant for the Illinois Central Railroad. He is followed by R. T. Merrick of Chicago. Late in the afternoon Douglas goes to Peoria, probably by boat.

SEPTEMBER 30 — WASHINGTON-METAMORA—Douglas leaves Peoria on the morning train of the eastern division of the Peoria & Oquawka Railroad. He gets off at Washington, is taken to the public square and greeted by Dr. R. M. B. Wilson, and speaks briefly. He is then driven six miles north to Metamora, where a monster delegation—some say 5,000 "sporting thirty national flags, and every wagon a banner"—comes out to meet the approaching 108 wagons. "Douglas' speech at Metamora was a clincher. It will long be remembered." The Judge returns to Peoria in the evening.

OCTOBER 1—PITTSFIELD—Lincoln has spent the night at the home of Col. William Ross, east of Pittsfield, after being met at Florence on the Illinois River by the Pittsfield delegation. He is driven from the Ross home to the public square in a wagon drawn by six black horses. After his two-hour speech, Calvin Jackson makes two ambrotypes of him. Lincoln probably spent the night in Florence in order to catch the Illinois River packet the

following morning for the 18-hour trip 116 miles upstream to Peoria.

OCTOBER 2—PEKIN—Douglas has spent the night at Thomas N. Gill's home in Pekin, to which place he came by boat from Peoria on Friday (Oct. 1), being greeted at the landing and escorted to the Gill home by a large crowd. On Saturday the steamboat *Editor* arrives with 250 voters from Peoria. Two young men are killed while firing salutes from their six-pounder. Douglas is introduced to the crowd of some 5,000 by James Haines. After his speech he returns to Peoria on the *Editor* and catches the Peoria & Oquawka train for Galesburg, where he spends Sunday.

OCTOBER 4—METAMORA-OQUAWKA-BURLINGTON—Lincoln takes the stage from the ferry landing opposite Peoria at 8 a.m., traveling to Metamora by way of Little Detroit and Spring Bay. The Woodford County Circuit Court, in session at Metamora, adjourns to hear his speech in the afternoon. He returns to Peoria in the evening. \* Douglas leaves Galesburg on the Peoria & Oquawka Railroad at 7:30 a.m. in a heavy rain, arriving at Oquawka, a town of 1,500, at 9:30. At ten o'clock the steamer *Keokuk* arrives with a hundred people from towns below. The brass bands from Oquawka and Monmouth parade in their band wagons. Isaac N. Morris of Quincy, candidate for Congress, accompanies Douglas to the stand erected in front of the courthouse, where after an introduction by C. M. Harris the Judge speaks for two hours and a half to some 800 to 1,000. Late in the afternoon he takes passage on the *Keokuk* for Burlington, Iowa, where he speaks in the evening.

OCTOBER 5—PEKIN-MONMOUTH—Lincoln and Kellogg leave Peoria on the steamer *Nile*, arriving in Pekin at 11 a.m. A crowd meets the boat and escorts them to the home of Joshua Wagenseller. In the afternoon the speaking is from a flower-bedecked platform in the courthouse square. Introduced by Judge John M. Bush, Lincoln talks at great length because



of the crowd's fine attention. He returns to Peoria and occupies Room No. 16 at the Peoria House. The next afternoon he takes the Peoria & Oquawka Railroad to Knoxville. \* Douglas leaves Burlington at 6:55 a.m. on the Peoria & Oquawka and is met at Monmouth by a brass band and escorted to the Warren House. He speaks at the public square in the afternoon, being introduced by Rob-

ert Holloway. In the evening a torch-light procession calls at the Warren House and Douglas responds with a short speech.

OCTOBER 7 — GALESBURG (Fifth Joint Debate)—Lincoln is heavily escorted along the nine miles of road from Knoxville to Galesburg. There he is taken to the home of Mayor Henry R. Sanderson, where T. G. Frost makes a reception speech and Anna

The fifth Lincoln-Douglas debate, October 7, was held on the Knox College campus in Galesburg. The speaking stand erected at the east end of the main building protected the speakers from the cold wind, but gave little protection to the 15,000 spectators.





Hurd presents a beautiful silk shield and coat of arms. Lincoln also receives a fine banner from the students of Lombard University. "Lincoln and Kellogg" banners are numerous. \* Douglas arrives on the Peoria & Oquawka with delegations from Monmouth and Burlington, and goes to the Bancroft House. He is welcomed by the Galesburg Light Guards, the Scandinavians, and the artillery company of Galesburg. J. Boggs makes a

welcoming speech. \* At two o'clock Lincoln and Douglas are escorted to the Knox College grounds in four-horse carriages driven abreast. The platform is erected along the east side of the main college building, which somewhat shelters the speakers but leaves the audience of 15,000 exposed to the cold wind. A 22-car excursion train from Peoria, despite using three engines, arrives too late for the debate.



The Randolph House at Macomb. Lincoln stays here overnight after his speech at the courthouse on the evening of August 25. He leaves the next morning for the debate at Freeport. Two months later he again remains overnight after addressing 4,000 on the courthouse square.

OCTOBER 8 — TOULON-MACOMB — Lincoln takes the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy train from Galesburg to Kewanee, and thence a carriage to Toulon. He is met by a delegation headed by his friend Thomas J. Henderson and escorted to the Virginia Hotel. In the afternoon he speaks in the Stark County courthouse square. After the meeting he returns to Kewanee. \* Douglas leaves Galesburg on the C. B. & Q. for Macomb, arriving in the evening. He is met by

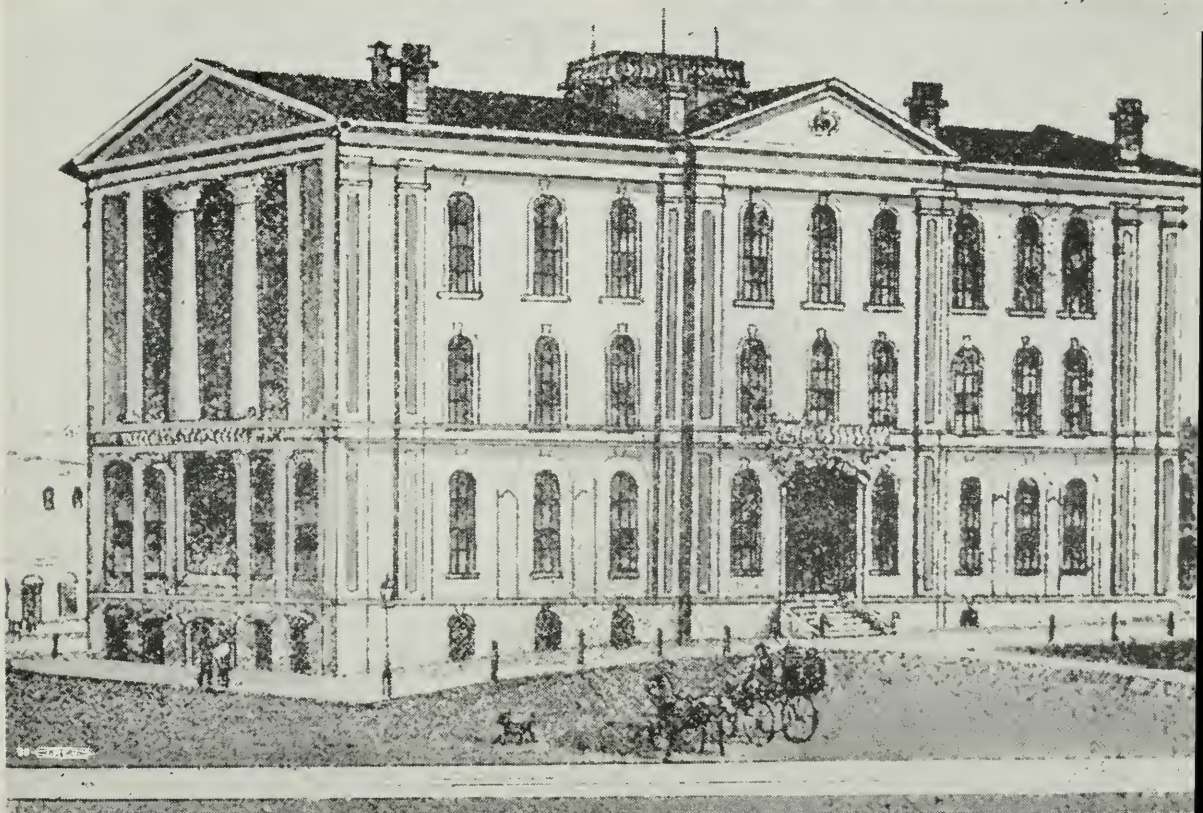
two brass bands, and a torchlight procession escorts him to the hotel. He responds to the serenaders with their flambeaux and bonfires with a short speech from the hotel porch.

OCTOBER 9 — OQUAWKA-BURLINGTON-MACOMB-PLYMOUTH—Lincoln is met at Oquawka Junction (now Gladstone) by the Oquawka Brass Band, which escorts him to town where he is a guest of banker Stephen S. Phelps. After being introduced by J. H. Stewart, Lincoln speaks for sev-





The platform for the sixth Lincoln-Douglas Debate, held in Quincy on October 13, was erected on Washington Square across Fifth Street from the Courthouse—the building with the four columns on the left in the picture. The audience was estimated to be from ten to twelve thousand.



The new City Hall at Alton. A stand for the speakers was placed against the south side of the hall and five to ten thousand persons heard the debate.

eral hours from a stand in front of the Jamison & Moir building. After this meeting Lincoln goes to Burlington, Iowa, where Stewart introduces him to a capacity crowd of 1,500 in Grimes' Hall, Lincoln speaking for two hours. "Mr. Lincoln appeared Saturday evening fresh and vigorous."

\* Douglas spends the morning in Macomb exchanging greetings with old friends. At 1:30 p.m. a procession forms and conveys him to the fairgrounds. He puts the crowd in good humor, and when he concludes they shout for him to go on, but he only smiles. He soon leaves for Plymouth, a town of 1,000, which turns out en-masse regardless of party. Douglas speaks only three-quarters of an hour.

OCTOBER 11—MONMOUTH-CARTHAGE—Lincoln leaves Burlington, where he has remained over Sunday at the Barrett House, at 6:55 a.m. Monday on the C. B. & Q. train for Monmouth where he goes to the Baldwin House. Despite the mud produced by an all-day rain on Sunday and the threat of more rain, the Monmouth Band escorts him to the public square where a large crowd is gathered. A welcome is given by Dr. Abram V. T. Gilbert, followed by a selection by the Monmouth Republican Glee Club and the introduction of the speaker by Philo E. Reed. Lincoln speaks for three hours. \* Douglas is received at Carthage "in a style to make his Democratic heart grow stouter in the conflict which he is carrying on to the trailing of the black flag of abolitionism." An all-night rain continuing until 9 a.m. does not keep away a crowd of 5,000, despite the flooded roads and thick-laid mud, which like:

Aunt Jemima's plaster,  
The more you try to scrape it off  
The more it sticks the faster.

To the assembled partisans Douglas deals out "Democratic doctrine not sparingly . . . but readily and with liberality."

OCTOBER 12—AUGUSTA-CAMP POINT—Douglas comes by carriage from Car-

thage to Augusta, where he speaks in the afternoon. The accommodation train—a freight with one coach—in which Douglas is to ride to Quincy on the Burlington—comes in from Galesburg with several extra coaches for the benefit of people on the way to Quincy for the joint debate. The train stops at Camp Point, which is full of people bearing torches, a military company with its fifes and drums, bonfires, rockets and fireballs, and a lighted flagpole. Douglas, Isaac N. Morris and W. H. Roosevelt speak briefly from the platform of the car.

OCTOBER 13—QUINCY (Sixth Joint Debate)—Lincoln arrives in Quincy on the 9:30 a.m. Burlington train, and a large crowd of Republicans, headed by Steig's Brass Band, escorts him to the home of Orville H. Browning. He is presented a bouquet from the Quincy Republican ladies—which he accepts with "a few well-chosen words." \* Douglas has been met by 400 blazing torches and beautiful transparencies and 3,000 shouting Democrats who escorted him to the Quincy House on his arrival the previous evening. \* The day is clear and pleasant, with 12,000 present from Illinois and Missouri. Lincoln opens the debate from the stand erected in Washington Square in front of the courthouse. The Republicans conclude the day with a "splendid torch-light procession." Both candidates and the reporters spend the next day traveling to Alton by the 250-foot Mississippi River Steamer *City of Louisiana*.

OCTOBER 15—ALTON (Seventh Joint Debate)—The *City of Louisiana*, with Lincoln and Douglas, docks at 5 a.m. A large crowd arrives from St. Louis on board the *Baltimore* and the "very fast" *White Cloud*. Passengers on the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis excursion train from Springfield include Mrs. Lincoln, the Springfield Cadets of whom Lincoln's oldest son Robert is a member, and Merritt's Cadet Band. Mabie & Crosby's French & American Circus plays at 11 a.m. \* Some 4,000 listen to the debate at two o'clock at the south front of the new



City Hall and Market Building. The Lincolns dine at the Franklin Hotel with Senator Trumbull and debate reporters Horace White and Robert R. Hitt. \* Douglas' voice is very indistinct, having suffered badly by so many outdoor speeches. He has nine speeches for the rest of the canvass to twelve for Lincoln.

OCTOBER 16—LINCOLN-GILLESPIE—Lincoln arrives in the town named for him five years before, on a thirteen-car special train on the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis, at noon. "Abe Lincoln, the Choice of the Germans" is one of the parade banners. Lincoln is introduced in the afternoon by his long-time friend and fellow-attorney Samuel C. Parks of Lincoln. He speaks for two hours from the stand erected on the west side of the courthouse. In the evening he returns to Springfield for a Sunday at home. \* Douglas speaks at Gillespie. The Whig press reported he repeated his Carlinville speech and lost his temper when questioned by a listener.

OCTOBER 18 — MEREDOSIA-DECATUR — Lincoln takes the early Great Western train from Springfield to Naples, then goes by carriage to Meredosia. While in Naples he notes "about fifteen Celtic gentlemen, with black carpet-sacks in their hands." Commenting upon this in his evening speech in Meredosia, he warns the Republicans to be on the lookout for fraudulent voters. Two days later he talks over the problem with John L. Scripps of the *Chicago Tribune*, and writes Norman B. Judd, Chicago lawyer, of his fears. In Meredosia Lincoln is the guest of Benjamin H. Grierson, store proprietor and later a noted cavalry leader in the Civil War. \* Douglas speaks at Decatur. The *Springfield State Register* estimated the crowd at 6,000. "As at all the points where Mr. D. has spoken, the enthusiasm of the people on his behalf was intense."

OCTOBER 19 — MT. STERLING-SPRINGFIELD—Lincoln arrives in Mt. Sterling, the county seat of Brown County, after a tedious carriage ride

of fifteen miles, and addresses a small crowd. Later, Charles H. Sweeney, a young law student, takes Lincoln in a carriage to Rushville, county seat of Schuyler County. This is the first visit of either candidate to either county. \* Douglas and his brass cannon arrive in Springfield from Decatur on the Great Western in the evening. A large concourse of people escorts him to the St. Nicholas Hotel where he makes a few remarks of thanks.

OCTOBER 20 — RUSHVILLE-SPRINGFIELD —Lincoln is the guest of William H. Ray in Rushville on the nights of October 19 and 20. Early in the afternoon of the 20th a procession of horsemen, headed by the Rushville Band, serenades the Ray home, and Lincoln mounts a flower pedestal in the yard and gives a brief response. At 2 p.m. he is introduced by Joseph W. Sweeney, a leading lawyer, to the crowd on the north side of the courthouse, estimated at 3,000. Many come to the reception at the Ray home in the evening. The next day he goes to Carthage by carriage. \* This is a "great day for the democracy of Springfield and Sangamon County." The day is clear after two days of rain, though the mud makes it necessary to hold the rally in front of the courthouse to take advantage of the planked streets of the public square. Douglas speaks for three hours to 5,000, many of whom were old friends when he lived in Springfield from 1837 to 1841. He gives special attention to Lincoln's career in Congress and his "desertion" of Henry Clay for Gen. Zachary Taylor in 1847-1848.

OCTOBER 21—ATLANTA — Douglas and a group of Democrats leave Springfield at 9 a.m. on a special train for Atlanta on the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis. The *Springfield State Register* reports: "The greatest enthusiasm prevailed. The people everywhere are rallying to the side of the invincible champion."

OCTOBER 22—CARTHAGE-BLOOMINGTON —Lincoln is repaid for his fifty-mile

carriage trip from Rushville to Carthage by a fine turnout of 6,000, with 2,000 ladies in the procession which passes the house where he is staying. In his speech he explains his relations with the Illinois Central Railroad, to offset Douglas' statements that he is "cozy" with the company. "Mr. Lincoln was in admirable spirits and voice and gave us the best speech ever made in Hancock County," writes the correspondent of the *Chicago Press & Tribune*. \* Douglas speaks to nearly 8,000 at Bloomington. His voice is broken, and many find it hardly possible to understand him. Mrs. Douglas' beauty causes favorable comment.

OCTOBER 23—DALLAS CITY-LA HARPE-PEORIA—Lincoln goes from Carthage by carriage fifteen miles north to Dallas City. The steamer *Oquawka* brings a large delegation of ladies from Burlington, Iowa, and the small *Niota Belle* a similar group from Fort Madison led by its brass band. Both delegations are met at the wharf by the Dallas City band, and Burlington

leads the way to the stand where Lincoln addresses the 2,000 assembled. After this speech he takes a carriage twelve miles to La Harpe, and speaks in the Methodist Church in the evening, then goes seven miles farther to Blandinsville, where he remains over Sunday (Oct. 24) at the home of Charles R. Hume, candidate for the legislature. Lincoln writes to Judd, "Just out of Hancock. Spoke three times in that county. *Tight*, with chances slightly in our favor." He writes Alexander Sympson to beware of a deal between the Douglas and Buchanan Democrats in Hancock County, and advises John Moses, candidate for the state senate: "Throw on all your weight . . . your case is not so desperate. . . . Put in your best licks." \* Douglas addresses a large meeting at Parmely's Hall above the Parmely Livery in Peoria in the evening.

OCTOBER 25—MACOMB—Lincoln's long escort of wagons arrives in Macomb from Blandinsville at noon. It is two

President Theodore Roosevelt, in the long coat, is standing in front of the bronze plaque on the boulder marking the site of the second Lincoln-Douglas debate at Freeport. The President delivered the address dedicating the marker on June 3, 1903.





months to the day since Lincoln's last speech in Macomb. He dines at the Randolph House, and despite the rain which continues to fall during the entire day addresses about 4,000 on the courthouse square for two hours, starting at 2 p.m. The windows of the buildings are crowded with ladies. Lincoln remains at the Randolph House overnight, and the next day is driven twenty miles to Vermont by Col. Thomas Hamer.

OCTOBER 26—TOULON—Douglas speaks at Toulon according to his published itinerary.

OCTOBER 27—VERMONT—Lincoln is discouraged by the cool weather and steady rain, but speaks for an hour to the 1,000 assembled in Vermont. He stands under a large umbrella while he speaks. He returns to Macomb by carriage, then takes the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad to Chicago, then the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis to Springfield.

OCTOBER 28—GENESE0—Douglas arrives in Geneseo on the Chicago & Rock Island train from the east and is heartily welcomed. At 2 p.m. he is introduced by Gates, president of the day, to 2,000 at the Geneseo Seminary. The Rock Island Band performs despite the wet, disagreeable day.

OCTOBER 29—PETERSBURG-ROCK ISLAND—Lincoln drives the twenty miles from Springfield to Petersburg, where he makes his sixty-second speech of the campaign. He is listened to "by a large and enthusiastic assem-

bly with more marked attention than is often the lot of a public speaker. . . . He dwelt more particularly on the grounds held by H. Clay on the question of slavery. . . . He has passed through the tremendous labors of this canvass with his health and strength unimpaired." \* Douglas takes an early Chicago & Rock Island train from Geneseo, arriving in Rock Island at 8:30 a.m. He is escorted by many four- and six-horse teams to the Island City Hotel, where he is welcomed by Judge J. W. Drury. Despite the damp, chilly weather and bad roads, the courthouse grounds are alive with people when Douglas begins speaking. This is Douglas' final speech of the canvass. Governor Henry B. Payne of Ohio is the orator at an evening meeting. Banners were everywhere.

OCTOBER 30—SPRINGFIELD—A giant Republican rally takes place in Springfield. Lincoln tries to speak; the tumult is so great that it is out of the question. Something more demonstrative than impassioned oratory is needed to satisfy the eager crowd. The people "formed processions in defiance of the marshalls and music, marched, counter-marched, and marched back again, making their banners eloquent, and the whole air vocal with their shouts." "My friends," said Lincoln, "to-day closes the discussions of this canvass. The planting and the culture are over; and there remains but the preparation, and the harvest."

Here in facsimile is the famous "Freeport Question" in Lincoln's handwriting. It was on the same sheet, the top of which is reproduced on page 8.

*"Can the people of a United States Territory, in any lawful way, against the wish of any citizen of the United States, exclude Slavery from its limits prior to the formation of a State Constitution?"*

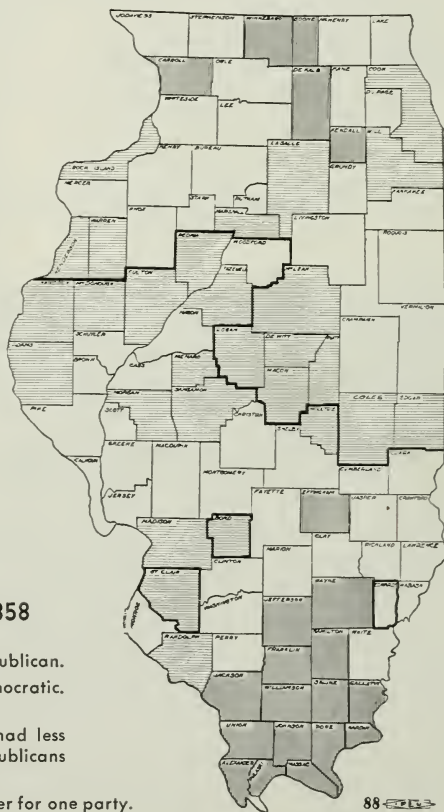
It was cold and wet on election day. The old Whigs in the Republican Party were noted fair-weather-voters, and a loss of ten thousand votes was blamed on the weather. Lincoln carried Douglas' home county of Cook, and Douglas carried Lincoln's county of Sangamon. Nine of the doubtful counties in central Illinois where the voting figures were within five per cent of each other were carried by the Republicans, and nine counties by the Democrats, but six doubtful counties along the Illinois River from Pike to Mason went Democratic. Douglas Democrats carried both branches of the legislature, although the Republican members elected to the General Assembly represented a population larger than the Democratic members. The old apportionment law made it necessary for the northern counties to turn out 1,000 voters to offset 750 in southern Illinois. The Republicans carried the two state offices—treasurer and superintendent of public instruction.

In the legislature on January 5, 1859, Douglas received the 54 Democratic votes, the 46 Republican votes went to Lincoln. On hearing the news, Douglas wired the editor of the Democratic *State Register*, "Let the voice of the people rule." Two weeks after the election Lincoln wrote: "But let the past as nothing be. For the future my view is that the fight must go on."

## ILLINOIS IN 1858

"The Republicans will sweep the North.  
The Democrats will sweep the South.  
Douglas hopes to get his balance of  
power in the centre of the State."

— John Wentworth in  
Chicago Democrat,  
June 18, 1858.



### LEGISLATIVE VOTE IN 1858

Counties north of heavy line voted Republican.

Counties south of heavy line voted Democratic,  
except St. Clair, Bond and Edwards.

Counties shaded with horizontal lines had less  
than 5% difference in the vote of Republicans  
and Democrats.

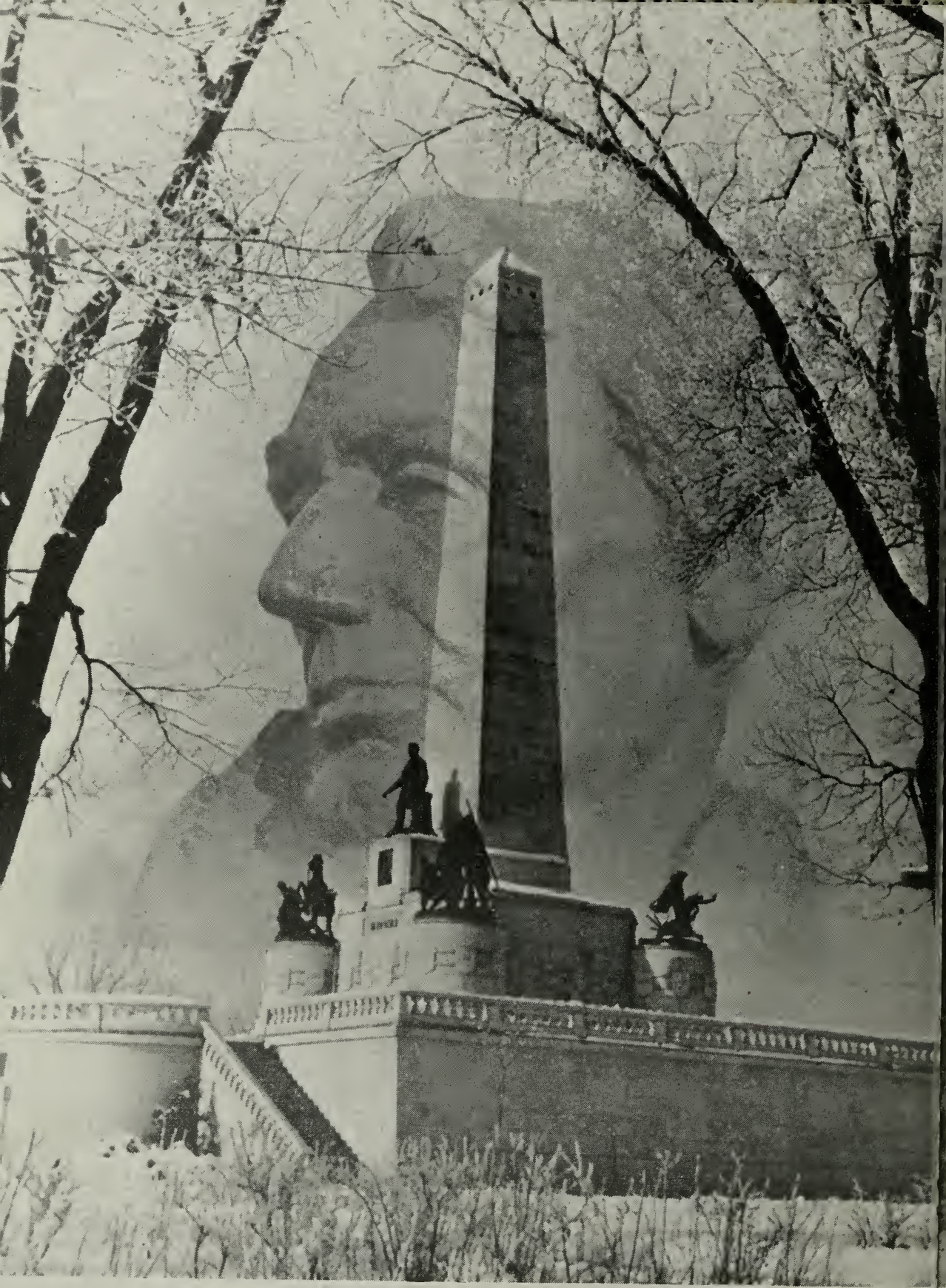
Counties heavily shaded voted 75% or over for one party.



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NOW HE BELONGS TO THE AGES